[MR. R. Nilakanta Pillai.]

The Hookworm Treatment campaign and the Vital Statistics sections are proposed to be abolished from the beginning of the next year. Provision has been included in the budget for grants to Municipalities for mosquito control and also for the control of filariasis in the Shertalai taluk.

23. *Stationery and Printing.*—The Government Press, the Stationery and the Central Printing Office are at present under the administrative control of separate officers, each independent of the other. As these are allied institutions, Government consider that it would be conducive to their better management if they are placed under a single officer, as in Mysore and other places, so as to co-ordinate their functions. It is therefore proposed to amalgamate the three institutions and place the combined department under the control of a single officer designated "Controller of Stationery and Printing." With the appointment of the Controller, the Special Officer for the Standardization of printed forms will cease to function, any work that may remain to be done by that officer being thereafter attended to by the Controller. Provision has been made for the stock-taking of the publications in the Government Press, as also of the type plant in the Government Press and the Central Prison Press. Provision has also been included for the printing and sale of Malayalam readers and copy books.

24. *Co-operative Department.*—The accounts of more than half the number of Co-operative Societies in the State were, till last year, being audited by the Supervising Unions. The Unions having however, expressed their reluctance to attend to the work of audit on the ground that it does not pertain to their normal functions, Government have taken on themselves the responsibility of audit of all the Societies registered under the Regulation. There are at present about 2,000 Societies to be audited. As it would not be possible for the existing staff of the department to satisfactorily audit the accounts of such a large number of Societies within a reasonable time, a special temporary staff of 8 Inspectors has been appointed for the purpose. Provision has also been made for the continuance of the five Group Secretaries for Co-operative Societies of Depressed classes, as well as for the payment of the usual grants to Co-operative Conferences and Supervising Unions. Funds to the extent of Rs 10,000 are proposed to be placed at the disposal of the Protector of Depressed Classes for carrying out measures for the general amelioration of the depressed classes in the State. His programme will, in general, include construction of houses, sinking of wells and organisation of new Co-operative Societies. The Devadhar Committee have just finished their work and the final report is awaited.

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